



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT BRANCH
Washington, D.C. 20570

Via email

August 9, 2021

Re: FOIA Request NLRB-2021-001200

Dear Richard Alan Zebracki (Teamsters Local Union #173):

This is in response to your request, under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552, received in this Office on August 2, 2021, in which you seek a copy of each RC Petition made by Teamsters Local Union No. 173 from 1965 to the present. You assumed financial responsibility for the processing of your request in the amount of \$37.00.

We acknowledged your request on August 2, 2021.

Searches were conducted in the Agency's electronic casehandling system, NxGen, which generally maintains NLRB case records from 2011 to present. These searches were conducted using various combinations of the name referenced in your request. Despite the age of the case files, the searches located five pages of responsive, releasable records, which are attached.

Prior to 2012, the Agency maintained paper case file records before certain case files were migrated into NxGen and the Agency began its electronic casehandling. Pursuant to the Agency's record retention and disposition policy, paper records were retained for a six-year period, which commenced at the close of the calendar year during which the case is closed. The records were then destroyed, unless they were selected for permanent retention based on their legal significance. A further search was made of the list of permanently retained cases maintained by the Agency's Case Records Unit for cases that closed between 1982 and 2010, and it was confirmed that no cases involving the entity named in your request were selected for permanent retention.

Please be advised that as part of our past practice of due diligence in searching for older records that pre-date our current electronic casehandling system, we had previously directed search inquiries to the Agency's Regional offices to conduct manual searches for potentially responsive paper records that may still be maintained. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Agency's Regional offices are either closed or operating with skeletal staffs and it is not feasible for our Regional staff to conduct manual searches for any paper records in cases that closed prior to 2012 at this time.

Accordingly, because our available search efforts at this time did not identify any other responsive records, your request is closed. If in the future, once our Regional offices return to regular opening hours and staffing, you continue to be interested in these records and would like us to conduct such a manual search to identify if any paper records still may exist, you may file a new FOIA request and assume fees for conducting the manual search. For information on the status of the Agency's Regional offices, you may access our website at www.nlr.gov.

For the purpose of assessing fees, we have placed you in Category A, commercial use requester. This category refers to requests "from or on behalf of a person who seeks information for a use or purpose that furthers the commercial, trade, or profit interests of the requester or the person on whose behalf the request is made, which can include furthering those interests through litigation." NLRB Rules and Regulations, 29 C.F.R. § 102.117(d)(1)(v). Consistent with this fee category, you "will be assessed charges to recover the full direct costs of searching for, reviewing for release, and duplicating the records sought." 29 C.F.R. § 102.117(d)(2)(ii)(A). Charges are \$9.25 per quarter-hour of professional time. 29 C.F.R. § 102.117(d)(2)(i).

One hour of professional time was expended in searching for and reviewing for release the requested material. Accordingly, please remit \$37.00.

Payment Instructions: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting widespread employee telework at the Agency's Headquarters offices, we are no longer accepting checks or money orders as payment at this time. To submit payment for your FOIA request, please use www.pay.gov. From the www.pay.gov home page, scroll down to the bottom left corner to select "Pay a FOIA Request." Click "See all options" and go to "Filter By Agency" to check the box for the National Labor Relations Board. Continue following instructions on the website. Please remember to include the Invoice Number, which is the NLRB FOIA Case No., and the amount you intend to pay. Further, please be advised that all FOIA payments must be paid in full before any future FOIA requests are processed.

You may contact Joseph Mullaney, the Attorney-Advisor who processed your request, at (202) 273-3863 or by email at Joseph.Mullaney@nlrb.gov, as well as the Agency's FOIA Public Liaison, for any further assistance and/or to discuss any aspect of your request. The FOIA Public Liaison, in addition to the Attorney-Advisor, can further explain responsive and releasable agency records, suggest agency offices that may have responsive records, and/or discuss how to narrow the scope of a request in order to minimize fees and processing times. The contact information for the FOIA Public Liaison is:

FOIA Public Liaison
National Labor Relations Board
1015 Half Street, S.E., 4th Floor

Washington, D.C. 20570

Email: FOIAPublicLiaison@nrlb.gov

Telephone: (202) 273-0902

Fax: (202) 273-FOIA (3642)

After first contacting the Agency, you may additionally contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA dispute resolution services it offers. The contact information for OGIS is:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration

8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS

College Park, Maryland 20740-6001

Email: ogis@nara.gov

Telephone: (202) 741-5770

Toll free: (877) 684-6448

Fax: (202) 741-5769

You may obtain a review of this determination under the NLRB Rules and Regulations, 29 C.F.R. § 102.117(c)(2)(v), by filing an administrative appeal with the Division of Legal Counsel (DLC) through FOIAonline at:
<https://foiaonline.gov/foiaonline/action/public/home> or by mail or email at:

Nancy E. Kessler Platt

Chief FOIA Officer

National Labor Relations Board

1015 Half Street, S.E., 4th Floor

Washington, D.C. 20570

Email: DLCFOIAAppeal@nrlb.gov

Any appeal must be postmarked or electronically submitted within 90 days of the date of this letter, such period beginning to run on the calendar day after the date of this letter. Any appeal should contain a complete statement of the reasons upon which it is based.

Please be advised that contacting any Agency official (including the FOIA Specialist, Attorney-Advisor, FOIA Officer, or the FOIA Public Liaison) and/or OGIS does not stop the 90-day appeal clock and is not an alternative or substitute for filing an administrative appeal.

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Sincerely,

/s/ Synta E. Keeling

Synta E. Keeling
FOIA Officer

Attachment: (five pages)